IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please ADD new claims 37-41 in accordance with the following:

1-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously Presented) A method for use in an image processing apparatus, the method comprising:

executing a main program in the image processing apparatus, wherein the main program is automatically executed in response to powering on of the image processing apparatus;

removably receiving a portable storage unit in an interface of the image processing apparatus;

determining whether the portable storage unit includes an execution file relating to the main program loaded in a memory of the image processing apparatus; and

executing the execution file stored in the portable storage unit as a plug-in program of the main program loaded in a memory of the image processing apparatus,

wherein the plug-in program does not have an independent interface and can only be used by being connected with the main program and provides additional function to the main program that was not previously supported by the main program.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, further comprising:

displaying, via an operation panel unit of the image processing apparatus, a menu to enable a user to select whether to execute the plug-in program stored in the portable storage unit;

receiving, via the operation panel unit of the image processing apparatus, a request to execute the plug-in program stored in the portable storage unit; and

executing the plug-in program stored in the portable storage unit in response to the receiving of the request via the operation panel unit of the image processing apparatus.

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38. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the interface comprises a card slot.

39. (New) An image processing apparatus comprising:

a printing unit to execute printing functions;

a processor to control printing functions executed by the printing unit, wherein the processor executes a plurality of programs in response to powering on of the image processing apparatus;

a memory;

an operation panel unit; and

an interface to removably receive a portable storage unit,

wherein if it is determined that a portable storage unit, connected to the interface, includes an execution file corresponding to one of the programs executed by the processor, the execution file stored in the portable storage unit is executed as a plug-in program of the corresponding one of the executed programs,

wherein the plug-in program does not have an independent interface and can only be used by being connected with the corresponding one of the executed programs and provides additional function to the one of the executed programs that was not previously supported by the one of the executed programs.

40. (New) The image processing apparatus of claim 39, wherein the operation panel unit is configured to display a menu to enable a user to select whether to execute the plug-in program stored in the portable storage unit, and to receive a request to execute the plug-in program stored in the portable storage unit,

wherein the plug-in program stored in the portable storage unit is executed in response to the receiving of the request via the operation panel unit.

41. (New) The image processing apparatus of claim 40, wherein the interface comprises a card slot.